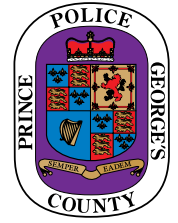


OFFICE OF THE CHIEF  
COMMUNITY FIRST DIVISION

# COMMUNITY PROGRAMS



Malik Aziz  
Chief of Police

**SERVING OUR COMMUNITY • FIRST TO SERVE**

Working to ensure safety and improve the quality of life for all in Prince George's County.



# COMMUNITY FIRST DIVISION

The Community First Division was established in 2021. It is made up of dedicated officers who are responsible for community programs, community service, community outreach, and youth-oriented programs on behalf of the Prince George's County Police Department. Descriptions of these programs can be found in this booklet.

The mission of the Community First Division is to provide proactive services and crime prevention education for at-risk youth and to be positive role models to families within the community

This division works to ensure safety and improve the quality of life for all in Prince George's County by starting early with our youngest residents to instill values and pride in their community.



TARA H. JACKSON  
ACTING COUNTY EXECUTIVE

## PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

*FIRST TO SERVE SINCE 1931*

8801 Police Plaza – 6<sup>th</sup> floor  
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772



MALIK AZIZ  
CHIEF OF POLICE

Greetings Community Members,

As the Chief of Police for the Prince George's County Police Department, I am honored to share my unwavering commitment to fostering meaningful connections between our police department and the community we serve. Effective public safety extends beyond law enforcement. Our commitment to serving the community is built on trust, collaboration and mutual understanding. To achieve our goals, we strive to engage in programs that strengthen relationships and celebrates the diversity of our community.

Many of the programs that we sponsor exemplify our department's dedication to inclusivity and outreach. These initiatives allow us to connect with residents in ways that extend beyond our traditional role, creating opportunities for a collaborative partnership with community members. We recognize that our strength lies in our unity, and we are committed to working together with residents to ensure that Prince George's County remains a safe and vibrant community for all.

Thank you for allowing us the privilege of serving you. Together, we can continue to make a difference. Together, the Prince George's County Police Department will continue to be the **First To Serve** the residents of Prince George's County.

Yours In Service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Malik Aziz".

Malik Aziz  
Chief of Police

# Our Team



Malik Aziz  
Chief of Police  
Vernon Hale, III  
Assistant Chief of Police  
Art'z Watkins  
Asst. Deputy Chief

## **Community First Team**

Dr. Daria Bailey  
Captain Saul Serpas  
Lieutenant. Kwesi Dadzie  
Sergeant Rodney Gause  
Sergeant Jerrick Jeffreys  
Corporal Jaron Black

Corporal Pierre Boone  
Corporal Robert Boyce  
Corporal Juan Damian  
Corporal Danielle Ross  
Corporal Kurt Schnitzenbaumer  
Corporal Nashawn Taylor  
Corporal Yolanda Thomas  
John McGroarty  
Gladys Watkins

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# POLICE ATHLETE LEAGUE (PAL)



## Badges for Baseball

(Summer Baseball Camp)

### About the Program

In 2016, members of the Community First Division established the Badges for Baseball Summer Baseball Camp. This week-long camp was established to teach the fundamental skills needed to play baseball, while also focusing on the core lessons taught through the Badges for Baseball program, such as; leadership, sportsmanship, teamwork, respect, resilience, living a healthy lifestyle and so much more. This coed camp is designed for youth of all skills levels. Since 2016 we have had over 400 youth participate in our summer baseball camp.

The Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation was instrumental in assisting with the curriculum, skills and drills needed to run the Badges for Baseball Summer Baseball Camp. Each summer, the Cal Ripken Foundation hosts hundreds of youths, from across the country, to attend the



Ripken Experience Summer Baseball Camp in Aberdeen, MD. The Cal Ripken Foundation provided the groundwork and blueprint to run a successful 3-day baseball camp. Two days of field trips were added to complete the full week. Each youth is provided with a baseball glove, t-shirts, water bottle and a backpack. All of the equipment needed to train and play baseball is provided by the Police Athletic League. Lunch and snacks are provided to each youth for all five days.

### Program Goals

Introduce the sport of baseball to youth in Prince George's County Increase the number of youths interested in pursuing baseball through an instructional league, either at the club level or school team. Recruit dedicated mentors (police and civilian) Provide quality instruction, equipment and experiences to youth participants at no cost to the families.

### Strategies/Objectives:

- Work closely with Division COPS and School Resource Officers (SROs) to recruit participants and educate them on the benefits of participating in Badges for Baseball Summer Baseball Camp
- Recruit current/retired Prince George's County Police Officers to assist as coaches and mentors during the baseball camp.
- Expose children to the sport of baseball and increase the number of youths participating in organized baseball throughout Prince George's County.
- Establish and maintain relationships with local businesses to provide the necessary funding needed to host the baseball camp.
- Invite High School youth, who have aged out of the summer baseball camp, to participate as peer mentors and coaches during the camp.



## P.A.L. Boxing

### About the Program

PAL Boxing was founded in 2020 by a dedicated police officer inspired by a mentor who had guided them since they were 14. This mentor not only encouraged them to stay in law enforcement but also urged them to connect meaningfully with the community, especially in ways that would foster trust and understanding. The mentor's guidance emphasized the importance of law enforcement officers becoming active, positive figures within the communities they serve. Motivated by these lessons, the program's creator recognized the opportunity to have a lasting impact on high-risk youth, offering them mentorship and support similar to what they had received.

While serving as a School Resource Officer, Cpl. Boone, alongside Cpl. Black, began reaching out to youth in need of extra support. They were granted access to a boxing gym in Capitol Heights, thanks to the generosity of their mentors. Big Garry Russell Sr., a respected community figure, played a pivotal role in the early development of the program by providing the gym space and supporting the vision of

using boxing as a tool to connect police officers with young people. Although Big Garry Russell Sr. passed away, his legacy continues to inspire the mission of PAL Boxing.

Additionally, Cpl. Boone forged partnerships with Candy Jacobs and Tamara Mckinny from HOGO Boxing, bringing in experienced boxing officials. Together, they organized the first amateur boxing match at the police station—a historic event that garnered a positive response from the community. This success demonstrated boxing's potential as a powerful tool for engaging youth in positive, life-changing activities.

The core mission of PAL Boxing is to create a world where every child has the opportunity to reach their full potential. By instilling confidence, discipline, and character through the structure and challenges of boxing, the program aims to cultivate resilience in participants, helping them grow into strong, community-minded individuals.

PAL Boxing offers students aged 11-15 the chance to engage in physical training while also addressing key life skills such as goal setting, peer pressure management, and health promotion. Weekly reflection sessions link boxing lessons with real-life strategies for success.



## Program Goals:

- Increase enrollment: Expand participation in the program, reaching more youth in need.
- Recruit dedicated mentors: Engage both police officers and civilians as mentors to support participants' development.
- Organize countywide sports camps and activities: Offer structured activities on days when school is not in session to keep participants engaged and motivated.
- Partner with schools, government entities, and local businesses: Develop community incentives and partnerships that help educate students about career and community opportunities.
- Leverage current participants and their families: Use the experiences of current students and their parents to promote the program and identify other youth who could benefit from participation.

## Strategies/Objectives:

- Collaborate with Division COPS and School Resource Officers (SROs): Work closely with local law enforcement to recruit participants and educate them on the benefits of programs like Badges for Baseball.
- Expose youth to a variety of sports: Provide diverse, enjoyable, and healthy

Through these strategies, PAL Boxing aims to continue its mission of empowering youth, fostering community connections, and providing a positive, transformative outlet for young people in the area.



# Forensics Camp

## About the Program

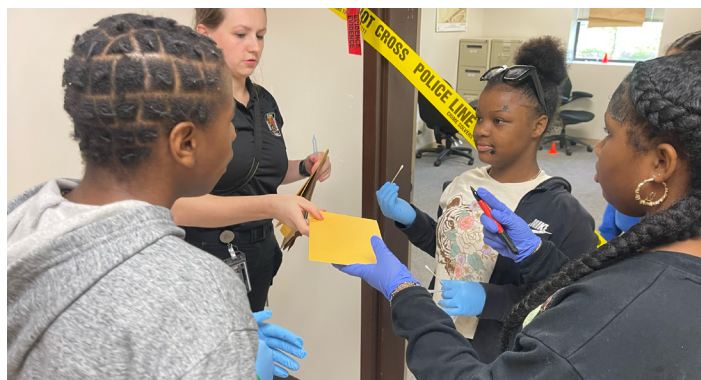
In 2022, the idea emerged to engage youth in science through interactions with police personnel, initiated by the Office of the Chief. The Community First Division collaborated with the Crime Scene Investigation Division and the Forensic Division to create an exciting Forensic Science Camp that spanned a week. The camp catered to children aged 10-15 from across the county.

The camp provides students with the opportunity to delve into the field of forensic science by participating in interactive mock crime scenes. Participants learned how to investigate crime scenes, focusing on various types of fingerprints and techniques for collecting them. They also gained insights into the importance of securing a crime scene and explored the diverse roles of officers and crime scene investigators during investigation.



## Program Goals:

- Inspire students to explore careers in forensic science, law enforcement, and related fields.
- Encourage analytical thinking through problem-solving activities related to crime scene investigation.
- Develop social skills by working in teams to solve mock cases.
- Educate participants about the role of law enforcement in maintain public safety and justice.



## Strategies/Objectives:

- Implement interactive simulations and practical exercises that allow students to investigate staged crime scenes.
- Invite forensic professionals and law enforcement officers to share their experiences and insights into the field.
- Conduct workshops on specific topics such as fingerprint analysis, evidence collection, and crime scene management.
- Organize group challenges that require participants to work together to solve a mystery, reinforcing teamwork and communication skills.
- Facilitate group discussions at the end of each day to reflect on what students learned and how they can apply it to real-life situations.



# Leadership and Life Summer Camp

## About the Program

The Leadership and Life Summer Camp is run by Prince George's County Police Officers who will mentor, train, and develop emerging young Prince George's County leaders. The Leadership and Life Summer Camp's principal objective is to build a relationship of trust between our youth and the Police Department. The camp lasts for one week and is conducted in both the northern and southern portions of the county.

The camp provides a safe social environment and emphasizes college and employment preparation, field trips, team building, improving academic performance, and effective communication. Mentors provide early problem detection to ensure the needs of youth program participants are being met. The camp also utilizes discussion sessions with topics such as bullying, peer pressure, leadership,

and youth development. The camp's programming is designed to challenge youth participants both physically and mentally. The camp also fosters partnerships with participating guest speakers, who are community stakeholders that are trained and educated on various topics and may provide the camp a variety of resources. Leadership and Life Summer Camp rewards participating youth who demonstrate growth, maturation, and leadership. This camp aims to elevate the self-esteem of our next generation of leaders by encouraging them to reach their near limitless possibilities.

## Program Goals:

- Increase enrollment into the program
- Conduct sessions during summer months to keep students engaged in leadership
- Learn to deal with challenges and resolve conflicts.
- Expose kids to outside activities by taking field trips
- Create a fun and safe environment

## Strategies/Objectives: (cont.)

- Partner with local business for exposure and create a positive and fun environment.
- Instill life skills such as leadership, motivation, and respect
- Expose children to different activities through the summer
- Challenge kids both mentally and physically to do their best

# Martial Arts

## About the Program

PAL Martial Arts the Prince George's County Police Athletic League originated in 2018. We partnered with Cabrera Jiu-Jitsu to provide self-defense classes for the county's youth. The PAL Martial Arts program is designed to teach self-defense to boys and girls, ages 9 through 17.

Currently we partner with Master Curtis Watkins Quick. A 6 Degree Black Belt. He has over 40 years of martial arts and 25 years of mentoring experience. He opened his own martial arts school in Newark New Jersey at the age of 19. He has been an influential in mentoring over 100 students in receiving their black belt certification; some have gone on to college and have opened their own businesses, became doctors, police officers, teachers and mentors.

During the Martial Arts instruction in PAL, students are divided into groups according to age and skill level. The program includes a mentoring aspect, which focuses on the core values of respect, discipline, staying healthy and safe, and living by a code. Special emphasis is placed on avoiding unsafe situations and de-escalation of scenarios that have the potential to turn violent, while giving students the skills necessary to defend themselves and to reach safety if a confrontation is unavoidable. This is a great way for boys and girls to gain self-confidence by learning an important and useful skill.



## Program Goals:

- Increase enrollment in Martial Arts
- Recruit dedicated mentors (police and civilian)
- Conduct sessions after school to keep students focused and active
- Learn to deal with challenges and resolve conflicts.
- Gain self-confidence.

## Strategies/Objectives:

- Work closely with Instructors, kids and families and educate them on the benefits of participating in Martial Arts
- Instills life skills such as discipline, motivation, and respect
- Expose children to different sports throughout the year to provide a variety of enjoyable and healthy activities
- Utilize current student participants and their parents to promote the program and assist in identifying other youth who could benefit from participation



## Program Goals:

- To bridge the gap between the community and the county police department
- To foster strong positive relationships between youth and law enforcement through sports and mentoring
- To provide you exposure and opportunities to college, military, and other careers paths they may take.
- To provide you with a safe place to learn grow and mature with the help of law enforcement.

## Strategies/ Objectives:

- Mentoring sessions are held twice a month every 2nd and 4th Wednesday evening. The sessions go over various life lessons and skills from Teamwork, Resilience, Bullying, and Healthy lifestyles.
- Mentoring is led by a minimum of 3 Law enforcement mentors. Mentors can be either Law enforcement or Civilian.
- Mentoring sessions follow the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation's Curriculum.
- Mentoring also offers various Field trips and activities that can range from overnight camps, college visits, ice skating, sporting events, and fishing.
- Mentoring also provides community service projects/ opportunities for all involved

# P.A.L. Mentoring

## About the Program

The Prince George's County Police Athletic League is a juvenile crime prevention program that uses mentoring, educational, athletic, and recreational activities to create trust and understanding between law enforcement and youth. This program promotes a healthy environment for the youth of Prince George's County under the supervision of law enforcement professionals. PAL assists our youth in developing character, integrity, and leadership skills, as well as respect for themselves and others. PAL builds a bridge between our police officers and our community's youth. Providing a safe alternative to drugs, alcohol, tobacco and gang activity.





## P.A.L. Outdoor Club

### About the Program

The Prince George's County Police Athletic League is a juvenile crime prevention program that uses mentoring, educational, athletic, and recreational activities to create trust and understanding between law enforcement and youth. This program promotes a healthy environment for the youth of Prince George's County under the supervision of law enforcement professionals. PAL assists our youth in developing character, integrity, and leadership skills, as well as respect for themselves and others. PAL builds a bridge between our police officers and our community's youth. Providing a safe alternative to drugs, alcohol and tobacco and gang activity.

### Program Goals:

Introduce the youth of Prince George's County to the outdoor environment by offering multiple outdoor excursions.

These outings will expose our youth to our natural world, through outdoor experiences such as fishing, hikes, nature presentations and environmental education on becoming good stewards of the environment.

### Strategies/Objectives:

- The Outdoor Club runs Spring through Fall and is subject to weather conditions. Depending on the outing, the program can run from as little as 1 hour or up to an entire day.
- Fishing trips usually 2-3 times a year.
- Nature Center Tours
- Hiking/ Nature walks
- Visits to various National, State, and Local Parks. (Spring and Summer locations and dates TBD)

# Talk to A Cop (T-TAC)

## About the Program

Talk to A Cop (T-TAC) is an in-school mentoring program for elementary students, which is designed to build and strengthen relationships between police officers and the youth of Prince George's County. The goal of the T-TAC is to make a positive impact in these children's lives by targeting those that are vulnerable or at risk for juvenile delinquency, gang activity and drug use, and to guide them towards better alternatives and help them build long-term trust and confidence. Students meet monthly during school hours at lunch period for discussions with police officers and the school counselor. Topics that are covered include bullying, problem solving, social skills, and safety in the community, leadership, self-worth, and respect.

## Program Goals:

The primary goal of the program is to enhance community engagement and foster sustainable development through collaborative initiatives that empower local residents. By focusing on education, resource sharing, and skill development, the program aims to create a resilient and informed community capable of addressing its own challenges. This goal encompasses promoting social cohesion, improving economic opportunities, and ensuring environmental sustainability, ultimately leading to a thriving community that actively participates in its own growth and development.

## Strategies/Objectives:

To achieve this goal, the program will implement several key strategies and objectives. First, we will establish partnerships with local organizations to provide workshops and training sessions tailored to community needs, thus enhancing the skill sets of participants. Second, we will facilitate regular community forums to encourage dialogue and collaboration among residents, ensuring that diverse



voices are heard and considered in decision-making processes. Third, we will promote resource-sharing initiatives, such as tool libraries and community gardens, to foster a culture of cooperation and sustainability. Lastly, we will monitor and evaluate the program's impact through surveys and feedback loops, allowing for continuous improvement and adaptation to community dynamics.

# “Girls Can’t Do What?!!”

## About the Program

Girls Can’t Do What!?!” is exclusively for teenage girls and is designed to provide mentorship tailored specifically to their needs. These young women meet with female police officers for bi-weekly sessions during their lunch break at school. Meetings include discussions on issues relevant to high school girls, such as, nutrition, physical fitness, and substance abuse. The goal of this program is to build relationships between these students and the police department and to create a safe environment in which they can address sensitive issues. We strive to instill a sense of empowerment in these young women, by teaching them that with a positive attitude and hard work, it is possible to achieve their goals. Being female doesn’t have to limit them. Girls CAN do anything.

## Program Goals:

The primary goal of the “Girls Can’t Do What?!!” program is to empower teenage girls by providing them with mentorship and support tailored to their

unique experiences and challenges. By fostering strong relationships between the participants and female police officers, the program aims to create a safe and trusting environment where young women can openly discuss sensitive topics. Ultimately, the program seeks to instill confidence in these girls, reinforcing the belief that gender does not define their capabilities and that they can pursue their aspirations with determination and resilience.

## Strategies/Objectives:

To achieve its goals, the program utilizes a structured approach that includes bi-weekly mentoring sessions during school lunch breaks, ensuring accessibility for the participants. Each meeting focuses on relevant topics that resonate with the girls’ lives, encouraging meaningful conversations and practical advice. The objectives include enhancing the girls’ knowledge about health and wellness, fostering critical thinking about life choices, and building a supportive community among peers and mentors. By actively engaging with the participants, the program not only addresses immediate concerns but also equips them with the tools and mindset necessary for long-term success and empowerment.







## Swim & Sail Event

### About the Program

The Swim and Sail event is a two-part experience for Prince George's County Youth to be introduced to the world of Aquatic safety. Day 1 of this event consisted of a Tour to the United States Coast Guard Yard, Curtis Bay in Baltimore, MD. There the youth were treated to presentations, equipment, and skill demonstrations by members of the United States Coast Guard. After spending the morning at the Coast Guard Yard, the youth were transported to Allentown Rd. Splash Park for an afternoon of swimming and fun. Day two is a Charter Fishing Trip where they youth were taken to a marina aboard two charter fishing boats. They spent the morning learning about the Chesapeake Bay, Marine Safety, Fishing, and environmental stewardship.

### Program Goals:

- Expose youth to the world of Aquatics and possible careers.
- Provide a safe and positive experience for youth to interact with Law enforcement and to learn.
- Expose youth to new skills and the sport of fishing.
- Expose youth to the United States Coast Guard and their mission.
- Allow youth to feel comfortable around large bodies of water.

### Strategies/Objectives:

- Confidence & Independence – Learning to navigate water fosters self-reliance, resilience, and problem-solving skills.
- STEM & Environmental Education – Sailing introduces concepts like wind patterns, navigation, and physics, while both activities build awareness of marine ecosystems and environmental stewardship.
- Teamwork & Leadership – Sailing, in particular, requires communication, teamwork, and leadership, fostering social skills and collaboration.
- Accessibility & Inclusion – Providing access to these activities ensures youth from diverse backgrounds can experience and enjoy water-based recreation.
- Career & Lifelong Recreation – Exposure to water sports can lead to future careers in marine sciences, the Navy, or professional sailing, as well as a lifelong passion for outdoor activities.
- Mental Well-being – Being on the water reduces stress, improves focus, and fosters a sense of peace and adventure.



# P.A.L. Tennis

## About the Program

The Prince Georges County Police Department Community First Division has formed a meaningful partnership with the Junior Tennis Champions Center (JTCC) in College Park to create an innovative program that blends mentorship with tennis education. This collaboration was established to address the need for accessible sports programs for youth from underprivileged backgrounds, recognizing that many talented individuals lack the resources to pursue their athletic aspirations.

The program is designed to provide deserving youth with the opportunity to learn tennis in a supportive environment. Participants receive comprehensive instruction in the fundamentals of the sport, alongside personal development through mentorship. Experienced coaches and mentors play a crucial role in guiding these young athletes, helping them not only to improve their skills on the court but also to develop important life skills off the court.



## Program Goals

A primary objective of this initiative is to increase minority participation in tennis, empowering young athletes to pursue their dreams. By providing access to quality tennis training and resources, the program aims to help participants secure college scholarships for tennis, thus opening doors for academic and athletic advancement.

## Strategies/Objectives

To achieve these goals, the program employs several key strategies. Participants may be awarded scholarships upon successful completion, allowing them to continue their tennis training through high school. The initiative also focuses on creating an inclusive environment that fosters personal growth and community engagement. To date, approximately

100 youths in College Park have benefited from this transformative program, gaining not only tennis skills but also valuable mentorship that can positively impact their futures.



# Young Entrepreneurs Program (YEP)

## About the Program

Young Entrepreneurs (YEP) is a program originally created in 2020 by Cpl. Taylor. She has 10 years of business experience and is a current business owner. She created this program for creative minds who were willing to embark on the wonderful path to entrepreneurship and explore the world of business. YEP assists with the process of becoming a young business owner by promoting entrepreneurial thinking, financial planning, and business management skills. YEP focuses on helping to develop ideas into a comprehensive plan for a start-up business. By the end of the program, youth will have learned how to pitch their business idea and business plan for the 21st Century Economy.

YEP is designed to teach you how to successfully create a business plan and is targeted for boys and girls ages 11-17. She encourages families to participate you during her YEP sessions to encourage their success. Cpl. Taylor has invited various guest speakers and successful entrepreneurs who she knows that can offer their expert advice during this journey. They all volunteer their own time to this program. She encourages youth to strive for their biggest goals and bring their boldest ideas.



## Program Goals:

- To educate the youth in the world of business
- Recruit dedicated business owners as mentors to our youth
- Conduct sessions after school to keep students focused and strive for their goals and start ups
- Gain self-confidence.

## Strategies/Objectives:

- Work closely with business owners and judges to gain experience with business plans
- Expose children to various strategies for business ownership
- Utilize current student participants to participate in judging and mentorship for future business leaders



# PAL Basketball Program

## About the Program

The PAL Basketball program is a dynamic and competitive initiative designed to foster athletic excellence and personal growth among young basketball players in the DMV (D.C., Maryland, Virginia) area. Our program emphasizes not only skill development and teamwork but also the importance of dedication and commitment to the sport. With teams that participate in various tournaments and leagues, players are given opportunities to showcase their talents against some of the best competition in the region.

In addition to competitive team play, the PAL Basketball program also offers summer clinics that span four weeks, providing players with focused training, skill enhancements, and the chance to refine their techniques. These clinics are designed to cater to athletes of all skill levels, ensuring that each player walks away with improved abilities and a deeper understanding of the game. Through a well-rounded approach to training and competition, the PAL Basketball program aims to cultivate not only skilled athletes but also responsible and driven individuals.

## Program Goals

The goals of the PAL Basketball program are to cultivate skilled basketball players who demonstrate excellence both on and off the court. We aim to enhance athletes' technical abilities and tactical understanding of the game while promoting teamwork, discipline, and sportsmanship. Through competitive play and targeted training, we seek to instill a strong work ethic and resilience in our players. Additionally, we aspire to foster a sense of community and support among athletes, families, and coaches, ensuring that every participant feels valued and empowered to reach their full potential in the sport and in life.



## Strategies/Objectives

- **Skill Development:** Enhance fundamental basketball skills, including shooting, dribbling, passing, and defensive techniques, through structured practices and clinics.
- **Teamwork and Collaboration:** Foster a sense of teamwork by encouraging players to collaborate, communicate, and support one another both on and off the court.
- **Competitive Exposure:** Provide players with ample opportunities to compete in various leagues and tournaments, thereby exposing them to high-level competition and diverse playing styles.
- **Personal Growth:** Encourage personal development by instilling values such as discipline, resilience, and sportsmanship in every athlete.
- **Community Engagement:** Build a strong

sense of community among players, coaches, and families, promoting a supportive environment that extends beyond basketball.

- **Structured Training Programs:** Implement a comprehensive training regimen that includes regular practices, skill-specific drills, and situational gameplay to ensure players are well-prepared for competition.
- **Seasonal Clinics:** Organize intensive summer clinics that focus on different aspects of the game, allowing players to receive personalized coaching and feedback from experienced trainers.
- **Competitive Scheduling** Curate a competitive schedule of tournaments and league games that challenges our teams and helps them grow through exposure to varying levels of competition.
- **Mentorship and Leadership Development:** Pair experienced players with younger athletes to foster mentorship opportunities, encouraging

leadership skills and personal accountability.

- **Community Outreach Programs:** Engage with local schools and community organizations to promote basketball and physical fitness, providing access to the sport for youth in underserved areas.
- **Feedback Mechanisms:** Establish regular feedback sessions with players and coaches to assess performance, identify areas for improvement, and celebrate achievements, fostering a culture of continuous growth.

Through these objectives and strategies, the PAL Basketball program aims to create a nurturing yet challenging environment where young athletes can thrive, both as basketball players and as individuals.



# Law Enforcement Explorer Program

## About the Program

The Law Enforcement Explorer program is designed to provide young individuals with a comprehensive understanding of law enforcement and its role in the community. Participants engage in a variety of activities that expose them to the day-to-day functions of police work, including ride-alongs, crime scene investigations, and participation in community service events. This hands-on approach not only educates Explorers about the responsibilities and challenges faced by law enforcement officers but also fosters a sense of civic responsibility and community involvement among youth. Currently, the program have approximately 150 Explorers and 15 Advisors, organized into six Explorer Posts located in Hyattsville, Bowie, Landover, Oxon Hill, Clinton, and Beltsville.

## Program Goals

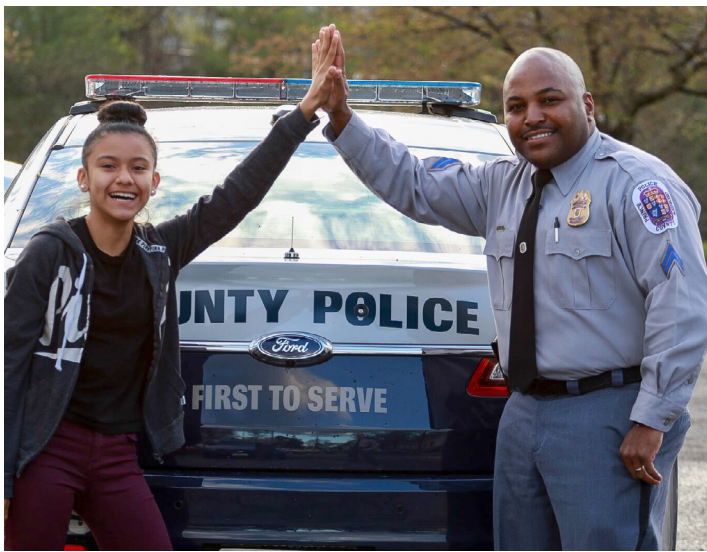
The program follows a structured curriculum that encompasses three key components: education, leadership development, and community service. Through educational workshops and training sessions, Explorers learn about various aspects of law enforcement, including criminal law, forensics, and emergency response. Leadership development is emphasized through team-building exercises and opportunities to take on leadership roles within the Explorer post. Additionally, community service projects allow participants to give back to their communities while developing important social skills and a sense of empathy.



## Strategies/Objectives

The primary objectives of the Law Enforcement Explorer program include promoting positive relationships between youth and law enforcement, developing leadership and life skills, and encouraging participants to consider careers in law enforcement and public safety. By providing a supportive environment where young people can learn, grow, and build connections with local law enforcement, the program aims to foster mutual respect and understanding. Ultimately, the program seeks to empower the next generation of leaders, equipping them with the tools necessary to contribute positively to their communities.





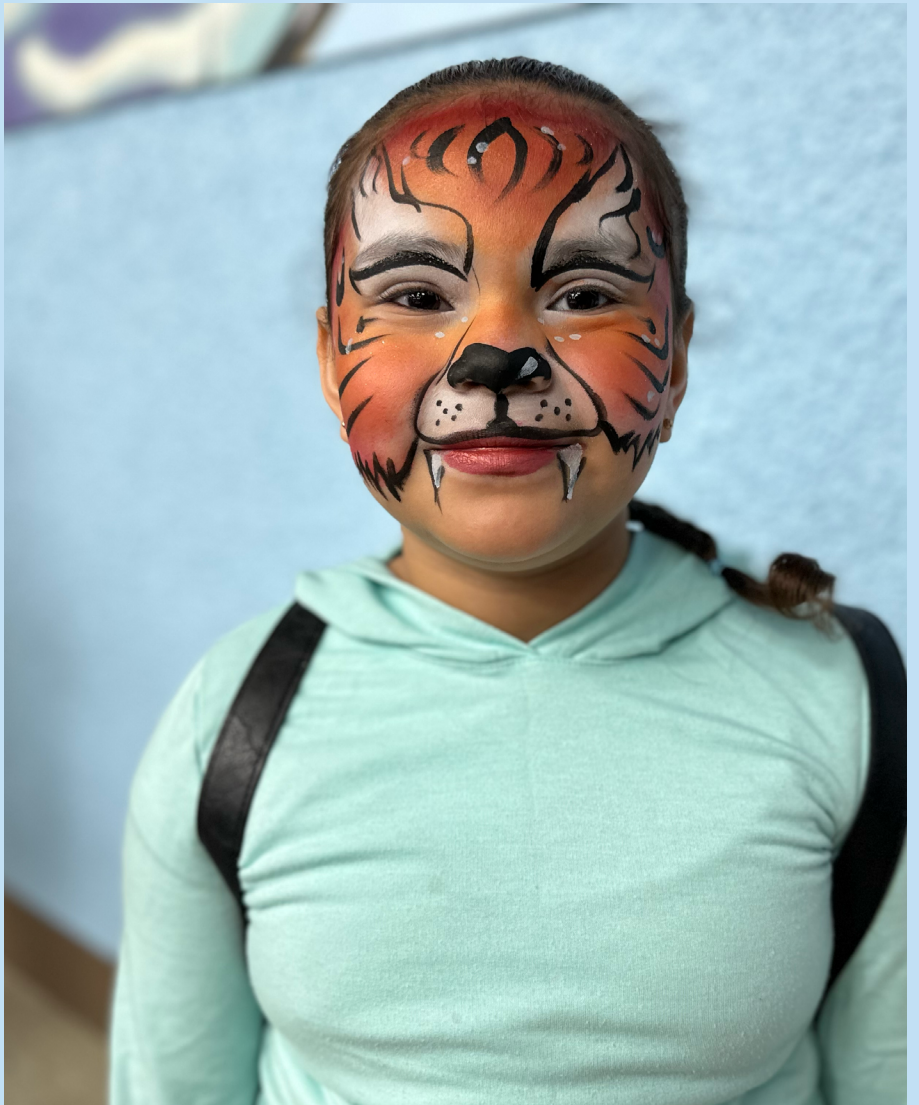




## Cora Rice Christmas Party

### About the Program

In honor of Cora Rice, the Prince George's County Police Department's Community First Division along with numerous community partners hosts the Annual Cora Rice Christmas Party for Deserving Children. Over 500 children, who are selected by their teachers and school staff, attend the party where police Managers and volunteers join them for a special day of fun- filled entertainment. The children will have an opportunity to take a picture with Santa before leaving with lots of wonderful gifts. The event, which has delighted children for years, is a highlight for those officers who volunteer their time to help create special memories during the holiday season."





### Program Goals:

- To establish a better relationship with the school system to determine student eligibility for the Cora Rice program.
- To establish a relationship with the Department of Social Service and Family Service to locate children who qualify to participate in the Cora Rice program.
- To develop partnerships with local businesses that are willing to provide funding for and donations to the Cora Rice Christmas Party for Deserving Children
- To create community and media awareness of the existence of the Cora Rice Christmas Party for Deserving Children
- To increase the number of children that can participate in the program.
- To develop partnerships with additional food vendors to provide healthier meal choices for the children who attend the party.

### Strategies/Objectives:

- Distribute mailers to each Prince George's County Public School that include the

history of Cora Rice, information about the Christmas Party for Deserving Children, Eligibility Requirements, and due dates.

- Physically visit the public schools to speak with guidance counselors about students who are eligible to participate in the program.
- Contact local businesses to request their involvement and partnership in making the event a success.
- Develop a relationship with the community outreach contacts at local radio stations so that the program can be promoted and garner attention.
- Contact local restaurants and request that they sponsor a portion of the meals that are served to the participating children.
- Develop a scholarship fund for the program.
- Ensure that every child that is in the free and reduced lunch program has had a chance to attend the holiday party at least once.
- Increase the participation of community leaders and business supporters.
- Inform Christmas Party participants about crime and safety initiatives for the holidays and throughout the school year.

# REAL Talk

## About the Program

The “Real Talk” initiative was launched by the Prince George’s County Police Department as a response to growing concerns among young people in the community. In the wake of global events such as the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change, political turmoil, and social unrest, many youths have felt ignored and uncertain about their future. Recognizing these challenges, the Police Department, in collaboration with community partners, set out to create a platform where youth can voice their concerns, connect with law enforcement, and engage in meaningful conversations about the issues affecting their lives.

“Real Talk” aims to foster a direct dialogue between the youth of Prince George’s County and the Police Department, along with other community organizations. This program provides a safe space for young people to discuss various issues, including youth and police interactions, the increase in juvenile violence, and other challenges within the community. By building relationships and promoting understanding, “Real Talk” seeks to empower youth to take an active role in shaping a positive future for their community.

Creative Connections Programs, part of the “Real Talk” initiative, the Creative Connections program incorporates activities from the PAL Art and Boxing programs. This program recognizes the importance of creative self-expression through art and boxing. Each session addresses specific topics and provides students with a safe space to discuss daily issues, learn self-regulation techniques, and express themselves. Sessions are held at North Point Traditional School on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays from 1:45 to 4:10 pm. Recently, guest speaker “Cousin Wayne” visited students to discuss the importance of making positive life choices and the consequences of street life.

## Program Goals:

- Establish a culture of inclusion, openness, and engagement between youth and law enforcement.
- Create a supportive environment where young people feel heard and valued.
- Address the specific concerns of youth, particularly around safety and their interactions with law enforcement.
- Encourage youth to actively participate in their communities and foster a sense of ownership over their future.

## Strategies/Objectives:

- Organize regular dialogue sessions between youth and law enforcement to discuss pressing issues and potential solutions.
- Collaborate with community partners to provide resources, mentorship, and support to young people.
- Focus discussions on critical topics such as reducing juvenile violence, improving police-youth interactions, and enhancing overall community safety.
- Encourage youth to take leadership roles within the program, allowing them to express their visions for a better community and empowering them to become agents of change.
- By addressing these objectives, the “Real Talk” program hopes to bridge the gap between youth and law enforcement, fostering trust, understanding, and a shared commitment to creating a safer, more inclusive.
- Surveys and feedback loops, allowing for continuous improvement and adaptation to community dynamics.

# School Safety Patrol/Camp

## About the Program

AAA Mid-Atlantic and the Mid-Atlantic Foundation for Safety & Education support the program by providing safety patrol materials and equipment worn by all AAA School Safety Patrols. In addition, the Mid-Atlantic Foundation for Safety and Education sponsors five AAA School Safety Patrol Officers' Training Camps in conjunction with local police departments each summer. The Prince George's County Police Department had been an integral part of safety patrol training camps for 30+ years until the camp was ended in 2008. Unfortunately, due to the closure of the Prince George's County Police Department's Safety Patrol Summer Camp, the number of safety patrols and the quality of training they receive has diminished over the past 17 years. It is the goal of the Community First Division to reintroduce the Prince George's County Police Department's AAA Safety Patrol Summer Camp.

The Community First Division Safety Patrol Camp is a juvenile crime prevention program that uses mentoring, educational, athletic, and recreational activities to create trust and understanding between law enforcement and youth. This program promotes a healthy environment for the youth of Prince George's County under the supervision of law enforcement professionals. The Safety Patrol Program assists our youth in developing character, integrity, and leadership skills, as well as respect for themselves and others.

The Community First Division sponsors a three-day Safety Patrol Camp that occurs during the week of Spring Break. The Purpose of this camp is to build relationships among students while participating in various team building activities. This camp will instruct children on the techniques and skills necessary to become a good safety patrol officer. The patrol camp is intended for patrols, ages 9 to 12, who hold leadership positions in their safety patrol program.



## Program Goals:

To increase the number of student participants in the schools for the program and ensure they participate in the Safety Patrol Camp.

## Strategies/Objectives:

To work with school staff to identify and recruit students for the Safety Patrol Program and conduct in-school seminars to describe the safety patrol programs and its benefits. Implement leadership training to the safety patrols throughout the school year.

# Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association

## About the Program

The Prince George's County Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association, Inc. (CPAAA) was formed on 6/18/2001 by Mr. William F. Milligan. CPAAA was formed to continue to bridge the gap between Citizens and Law Enforcement Officers (LEO) to share the information that was learned in the 13-week program with family, friends, and co-workers. The CPAAA is an organization composed of graduates from the Citizens Police Academy in Prince George's County, Maryland, who are dedicated to fostering a strong partnership between community and police department. This alumni association serves as a bridge to enhance communication, collaboration, and mutual understanding between law enforcement and the residents of Prince George's County. Membership in the CPAAA is open to all graduates of the Prince George's County Citizens Police Academy. Members are encouraged to actively participate in the association's activities, contribute to its mission, and support the police department's community engagement efforts.

## Program Goals

The primary goal of the CPAAA is to support the Prince George's County Police Department by promoting community involvement, understanding, and cooperation. The organization aims to provide ongoing education and training to alumni members and assist the police department in community outreach and public safety initiatives.

## Strategies/Objectives

The objective is to provide support for community policing efforts, host regular meetings and safety workshops, as well as participate in public safety events and community fairs. Members volunteer for police department events and assist with administrative and logistical tasks during community events. Members also raise funds for the police department initiatives and community programs.



# Triad

## About the Program

Triad is a commitment between Chiefs of Police, the Office of the Sheriff and senior leaders and affiliated organizations. They reduce elder victimization and increase law enforcement service to older persons. The purpose of a Triad is to develop and implement crime prevention and education programs for older individuals. Activities center on both pre-victimization (preventive) and post-victimization (victim/witness assistance) aspects.

Three national organizations agreed that the crime-related needs of older individuals could best be met by their cooperative effort - AARP, International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA). This Triad of organizations signed a cooperative agreement in 1988. Today, Triad can involve the Fire Department, Councils on Aging, Emergency Service, Social Service and other organizations that work directly with elder citizens.

# Seniors and Law Enforcement Together (SALT)

Seniors and Law Enforcement Training (SALT) focuses on reducing fear of crime by identifying misconceptions, educating seniors on criminal activity that affect them, and creating programs to reduce elder crime with information exchange between law enforcement and older persons.



# Senior Wellness Day

## About the Program

The Senior Wellness Day is an annual expo dedicated to fostering connections and promoting well-being among seniors and law enforcement. This one-day event brings together a wealth of resources designed to enhance the lives of older adults while encouraging collaboration and understanding between the senior community and local law enforcement agencies.

At Senior Wellness Day, seniors can explore a multitude of resources tailored to their unique needs, including health screenings, wellness workshops, and informative seminars on topics ranging from nutrition to mental health. Attendees will have the opportunity to connect with a variety of service providers, ensuring they leave equipped with valuable knowledge and tools to support their health and well-being.

One of the standout features of this event is the collaboration with law enforcement, who are present to engage with seniors in a friendly, supportive environment. This partnership aims to strengthen community ties, promote safety, and empower seniors by providing them with essential information on personal safety and crime prevention.

## Program Goals:

- To connect Seniors with resources and services.
- Educate seniors on current crime trends and scams.
- Promote an active and healthy lifestyle amongst the elderly.

## Strategies/ Objectives:

- To Connect Seniors with community resources such as local utilities, (WSSC, PEPCO), Registrar of Wills, MD Dept of Veterans Affairs, M-NPPC, PGFD, Med-star Health
- Providing information and education about Crime trends and scams that are most prevalent throughout the county and that target seniors. (Role Playing Scenarios of a theft or PBS and have the seniors attempt to accurately describe what they witnessed to officers) We also partnered with the Financial Crimes Unit to present on scams.
- Promote a healthy and active lifestyle by hosting a chair yoga and boxing workout session led by officers.

# Love on our Seniors Event

## About the Program

During the week of Valentine's Day, we host "Love on our Seniors" event, a special occasion dedicated to celebrating and connecting our senior community with local law enforcement. This program is designed to foster relationships, promote understanding, and highlight the invaluable contributions of our seniors. Our officers are celebrating love, friendship, and community spirit. The "Love on our Seniors" event is more than just a day of fun—it's a commitment to recognizing and honoring our seniors, ensuring they feel cherished and supported. Together, we can build a community where everyone feels valued and connected.

## Program Goals:

**Building Connections:** At the heart of this event is the opportunity for seniors and law enforcement officers to engage in meaningful interactions. By spending time together, we aim to bridge the gap between generations and professions, creating a more cohesive and understanding community.

**Valentine's Day Festivities:** The day will be filled with engaging activities that celebrate love and companionship. Seniors and officers will participate in crafting Valentine's cards, sharing personal stories, and enjoying music and dancing. These activities are designed not only to entertain but to foster connections and mutual respect.

**Raising Awareness:** Senior citizens often face challenges such as loneliness and a lack of support. This event serves as a platform to raise awareness about these issues while highlighting the importance of providing attention and care to our older population. Through collaboration with law enforcement, we aim to address concerns related to safety and well-being.

**Community Engagement:** By bringing together seniors and law enforcement, we emphasize the

importance of community support and collaboration. The event serves as a reminder that a strong community is built on understanding, respect, and shared experiences. Participants will leave with a sense of belonging and security, knowing they are valued members of the community.

**Educational Opportunities:** Throughout the day, both seniors and law enforcement will have the chance to learn from one another. Officers will gain insights into the unique needs and concerns of the senior community, while seniors will learn about safety tips and community resources available to them.

## Strategies/Objectives:

- The Community 1st Division identified and partnered with 3 Senior living facilities within the county. 1 Community in Division 1 (Spellman House), Division 3 (Victory House), and Division 5 (Branchwood Towers)
- Members of the Community First Division (CFD) spent time with those selected communities, CFD provided Edible arrangements and other light fair/ breakfast.
- CFD provided residents with heartfelt handwritten notes and cards from PAL youth, and officers.





# U. S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots

## About the Program

The mission of the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November, and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community in which the campaign is conducted. Each year during the holiday season, the Prince George's County Police Department partners with the USMC as a donation/pick up and distribution site for Toys for Tots. Starting in November each year, the Community First Division, starts distributing Toys for Tots boxes to businesses in Prince George's County, wishing to become a toy drop off location. During this time, the National Toys for Tots organization also starts to send supplemental shipments of toys, which need to be unloaded, counted and sorted at our facility,

In December, the Community First Division and the Prince George's County Toys for Tots Chapter, partner with several organizations to host a series of toy drives and events. These events include, but are not limited to, IKEA Toys Drive with ABC7 News, National Harbor Toys Drive, Iwa Jima Toy Drive, Washington Commanders Toys Drive and fundraiser, Washington Commander Winter Toy Shop, and several other smaller toy drives and events. Either the 2nd or 3rd Saturday of December, depending on the date, the Toy Distribution is held at 7600 Barlowe Road, Hyattsville, MD 20785. On this date, 5,000+ families who preregistered for toys, are invited to come to Barlowe Road, where over 100 volunteers and officers distribute the 75,000+ toys collected over the last 2 months.

## Program Goals:

The primary goal of Toys for Tots is to deliver, through a new toy at Christmas, a message of hope to less fortunate youngsters that will assist them in becoming responsible, productive, patriotic citizens. The National U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for

Tots organization was founded in 1947. Almost 20 years ago, the National Toys for Tots Organization formed a partnership with the Prince George's County Police Department, to serve and distribute toys to families and children in Prince George's County. Since being established in Prince George's County, Toys for Tots has distributed over 1 million toys to over 350,000 families in Prince George's County. On average over the last 5 years, we distribute 75,000 toys to 20,000 youth yearly.

- Continue to foster the relationship between the Prince George's County Police Department and the Prince George's County Toys for Tots Chapter.
- Continue to grow our partnerships with businesses and organizations in Prince George's County to collect toys.
- Increase the number of toy collection sites within Prince George's County
- Distribute toys to all preregistered families who attend the Toy Distribution.
- Distribute toys to as many preregistered nonprofit organizations as possible, depending on the number of toys remaining after the main Toy Distribution.



## Strategies/Objectives:

- The objectives of Toys for Tots are to help less fortunate children throughout the United States experience the joy of Christmas; to play an active role in the development of one of our nation's most valuable resources – our children; to unite all members of local communities in a common cause for three months each year during the annual toy collection and distribution campaign; and to contribute to better communities in the future.
- Continue to work with the Regional Toys for Tots Coordinator to coordinate toy deliveries, events and toy drives in Prince George's County.
- Coordinate with Media Relations, ABC7 News (Toys for Tots partner), to advertise and promote the toy collections and the toy distribution date.
- Coordinate the storage of remaining toys after the final toy distribution date.
- Recruit local business that have not previously participated in Toys for Tots to register as a collection point for toys. Division COPS officers as well as CFD personnel can conduct visits to business to request assistance as toy collection sites.

# Inter-Agency Attendance Committee (IAC)

## About the Program

Each school has an Attendance Committee, chaired by the pupil personnel worker, to help students and families understand the importance of regular attendance and develop plans for students who need help with attendance. PGPD, Prince Georges County State's Attorney's Office, Prince George's County Juvenile Services, Prince Georges County Health Department, Prince Georges County Social Service and other agency components meet monthly to address the underlying issues.

## Program Goals

The primary goals of the program are to enhance student attendance by fostering collaboration among various community agencies, including the Prince George's County State's Attorney's Office and the Health Department. The Attendance Committee, led by the pupil personnel worker, aims to educate students and families about the critical importance of regular attendance in academic success. By developing tailored support plans for students facing attendance challenges, the program seeks to create a supportive environment that encourages consistent

school participation and addresses underlying issues impacting attendance. Regular monthly meetings among stakeholders ensure a coordinated approach to tackling these challenges, ultimately promoting student well-being and educational achievement.

## Strategies/Objectives:

The Attendance Committee:

- Meets with identified parents and incoming students who have exhibited problem attendance during the previous school year.
- Meets regularly to discuss student attendance.
- Meets with students and/or parents of students referred for attendance concerns.
- Develops individual attendance contracts with students and families to help them improve attendance.
- Monitors whole-school attendance patterns.
- The CFD attends meetings with IAC to provide our Service/programs when applicable. The IAC is also a resource for CFD to use if needed.

# Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)

## About the Program

The VIPS Program provides support and resources for agencies interested in developing or enhancing a volunteer program and for citizens who wish to volunteer their time and skills with a community law enforcement agency. The program's goal is to enhance the capacity of state and local law enforcement to utilize volunteers.

## Program Goals

The VIPS Program aims to enhance the capacity of state and local law enforcement agencies by fostering volunteer engagement and promoting community involvement. It provides tailored resources and training for both agencies and volunteers, facilitating the development of effective volunteer programs. The initiative also emphasizes the importance of evaluation metrics to assess program impact and encourages knowledge sharing among agencies to enhance collaboration and best practices. Ultimately, the program seeks to build trust between citizens and law enforcement, strengthening community ties through active volunteer participation.

## Strategies/Objectives:

- Learn about promising practices being used in existing VIPS programs and share this information with law enforcement agencies that want to expand their programs,
- Increase the use of volunteers in existing programs.
- Help citizens learn about and become involved in VIPS programs in their communities

## Functions of VIPS:

- Assist with assorted indoor/outdoor special events.
- Staff lobby information desks at Division Stations
- Assist with Explorer Meetings
- Assist with special projects.
- Provide clerical duties throughout the Police Department



## Backpack Giveaway

### About the Program

On August 25, 2023, the Prince George's County Police Department, Office of Community 1st collaborated with Maryland National Capital Park Police, Department of Public Works and Prince Georges County Fire/ EMS to host a Back-to-School Celebration. This event was held at 7600 Barlowe Road, the old Prince George's County Police Headquarters parking lot. This event brought memorable experience to the children who attended, because not only will the kids get backpacks filled with school supplies, but they will be able to participate in different activities and sporting events. The Office of Community 1st along with our partners assisted the children in the events. Food and music were provided by our partners.

### Program Goals:

- Increase community awareness of free backpacks
- Make families aware of assistance offered by Prince George's County Police Department
- Create fun environment for kids and families
- Strategies/Objectives
- Partner with local retailers to give back to our community
- Utilize partnerships with local government to assist
- Invite local business for exposure and to give back for this great cause



# Sock, Hat, and Gloves Drive

## About the Program

A key component of this program is assisting individuals without stable housing by providing essential items such as socks, hats, and gloves. These items are vital for ensuring the comfort, health, and hygiene of those in need. Despite being the most requested items at homeless shelters, socks remain among the least donated.

## Program Goals:

The primary goal of the program is to enhance the comfort and hygiene of individuals in need by distributing new socks, hats, and gloves. With winter approaching, these donations are particularly critical. By engaging youth in this initiative, the program also aims to instill a sense of responsibility and compassion in the community.

## Strategies/Objectives:

To raise awareness and encourage community contributions, PAL and Explorer youth disseminate information across Prince George's County. The response from the community has consistently been overwhelmingly generous, leading to a successful donation drive. Every year on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, a day of service, we will hold a discussion with youth participants to reflect on the importance of giving back, followed by the distribution of the collected items to local homeless shelters and encampments in Prince George's County, Maryland.



# Military Appreciation Luncheon

## About the Program

The Prince George's County Police Department hosts an annual special event that stands out not just for its food, but for its profound sense of gratitude and recognition: the Annual Military Appreciation Luncheon.

The event began with a heartfelt welcome from the Chief of Police, who emphasized the dual commitment of many officers who serve both their community and their country. We honor not just the badge but the uniform that represents bravery, sacrifice, and dedication. This sentiment resonated deeply, acknowledging the unique challenges faced by those who juggle the responsibilities of law enforcement with military service.

The Prince George's County Police Department's Annual Military Appreciation Luncheon is more than just an event; it is a celebration of service, sacrifice,

and community. By honoring those who wear both the police badge and the military uniform, the department reinforced its commitment to recognizing the invaluable contributions of its members who protect and serve, both at home and abroad. As attendees left with full hearts and renewed purpose, it was clear that this tradition would continue to inspire and unite the community for years to come.



# Women's History Luncheon

## About the Program

The Women's History Luncheon provides a unique platform to recognize the achievements of women who have made significant strides in their fields, particularly within the realm of policing. Attendees engaged in meaningful discussions about the challenges and triumphs faced by women in law enforcement, emphasizing their essential roles in fostering safer and more inclusive communities. Keynote speakers shared inspiring personal journeys, motivating the next generation of female leaders to pursue their passions in law enforcement.

Prince George's County Police Department is unwavering in its commitment to nurturing an environment where women can thrive and ascend to leadership roles. This commitment is demonstrated through mentorship programs, targeted recruitment initiatives, and comprehensive leadership training aimed at inspiring new female police leaders. The

department acknowledges that diverse perspectives are crucial for effective community policing and for strengthening relationships with the communities they serve.

This celebration of women in law enforcement is about more than recognition; it is about laying the foundation for a legacy of leadership that encourages young women to pursue careers in policing. By empowering female officers and creating pathways for advancement, the Prince George's County Police Department is dedicated to ensuring that the future of law enforcement reflects the diversity of its community.

The Women's Leadership Luncheon marks a significant milestone in the county's commitment to equality and opportunity for all. As attendees departed, they carried with them not only the inspiring stories of accomplished women but also a renewed sense of purpose to inspire and lead within their own communities. This inaugural event is just the beginning of a transformative journey, paving the way for future celebrations of female leadership in law enforcement and beyond.



## Faith & Blue Initiative

In April 2020, something remarkable happened. In coordination with the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) and law enforcement organizations from across the country, plans for the first National Faith & Blue Weekend were drawn up. Faith & Blue was something new and unique! Law enforcement agencies had too often been operating without trusted community partners to help build understanding with residents and co-produce public safety. Below are the initiatives that have proven to be successful in building stronger relationships between law enforcement and the communities they serve.

The breakthrough with Faith & Blue is that it utilizes the connections and standing of organizations of every faith tradition to co-facilitate local activities that enhance reconciliation over a shared weekend. The first Faith & Blue in October 2020 involved 1,000 activities, and over four years Faith & Blue has hosted ten thousand engagements in all fifty states with half a million participants.

Since 2012, the Prince George's County Police Department and First Baptist Church of Glenarden along with Zion Church have held annual gift cards for guns events. The event provides citizens with a safe and anonymous opportunity to turn in firearms in exchange for gift cards, contributing to public safety by ensuring unwanted firearms are disposed of responsibly. Citizens can turn in firearms anonymously; no warrant checks or enforcement action is taken against them concerning the firearm(s) turned in.

The National Day of Prayer was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of Congress and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman. In 1988, the law was unanimously amended by both house and Senate; President Ronald Reagan signed it, designating the first Thursday of May each year as national prayer day. Prince George's County Police Department has participated in this event over the years.

Since 2023 the Prince George's County Police Department has hosted an Active Shooter Symposium for Faith Leaders within Prince George's County, Maryland. This training is a partnership with Prince George's County Police, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Maryland Fire Marshalls Arson Task Force. Faith leaders of all faiths were invited to this training to receive knowledge on ways to respond to an active shooter threat at their places of worship.





## Faith-Based Liaison Officer/Establishment

This role was created in 2021 by Chief of Police, Malik Aziz after seeing the need to strengthen relations with our large faith-based community here in Prince George's County, Maryland. Sergeant Rodney Gause serves as the faith liaison for the Department.

### Role:

- Establish and maintain partnerships with faith leaders in all divisions
- Coordinate the flow of information to the faith community on crime trends, community alerts and crime prevention at the direction of the Chief
- Establish and maintain partnerships with clergy in all divisions

### Goals/Purpose:

- Connect With All Faiths
- Christian community - attend services, community walks, youth outreach, citizens police academy, gun buyback campaigns, town hall meetings with County Executive and Chief of Police
- Muslim community - attend Ramadan services, festivals, town hall meetings with County Executive and Chief of Police.
- Jewish community - attend Interfaith Thanksgiving services, festivals, town hall meetings with County Executive and Chief of Police.
- Buddhist community - attend festivals and coordinated training for human trafficking/sex trafficking taught by Prince George's Office of Human Rights
- Hindu community – attend Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Hindu New Year festivals and coordinated training for human trafficking/sex trafficking taught by Prince George's County Office of Human Rights

### Community Outreach:

- End Time Harvest Ministries Youth Safety and Mental Health Initiative/Partnership with Council Member Jolene Ivey
- Meetings with Bowie Interfaith Coalition, Temple Hills Coalition of Pastors and Division 5 Faith Advisory Council
- Attend Senator Joanne Benson Route 202 Coalition meetings
- Provide Triad/Salt presentation for senior at places of worship
- Attend prayer vigils and police appreciation services on behalf of Chief of Police
- Attend domestic violence summits across the county
- Coordinate department-wide Faith and Blue Weekend
- Coordinate active shooter training for clergy



- Support the Men In The Gap reentry group and the Redeem and Restore reentry groups weekly discussions
- Support annual National Day of Prayer on behalf of the Chief
- Coordinated town hall meeting for Chief of Police and County Executive to challenge faith community to help with youth violence

### Community Trust:

- Contractual trust – establish this by ensuring that promises are kept, expectations are clear, and the community is assured that they can count on the belief that the agency will do whatever it says it's going to do. (fight crime/transparency)
- Caring trust – work to strengthen caring trust with genuine acts and words that express concern for the community we serve. With caring trust the community will believe that no matter what might go wrong, the agency intends to act in their best interest.

### Unity:

- Implementing partnerships with faith leaders in every division coverage area to propel our county forward in a more peaceful collaborative way. Working with faith leaders will help bridge the gap between police officers and the citizens we serve.

### Recruitment:

- Email faith leader's department recruitment flyer
- Request faith leaders announce department hiring efforts during services
- Request recruiting division attend community days hosted at places of worship
- Request County Executive and County Council Members to market hiring message in their newsletters
- Recruit from department youth Explorers Program
- Email faith leader's the department recruitment flyer for Crossing Guards
- Recruit new chaplains for Psychological Services Division to ensure that diversity of faiths are represented



# Pride Walk

## About the Program

Pride celebrations have been a big part of the world as we know it today, bringing people from different cultures and backgrounds together to celebrate being who they are as people. In June 2023 Prince George's County hosted its first pride event, bringing numerous community members and entities together. The event created a space where people can see officers outside of the uniform and open a space where they can really connect as a community.

This event is a great opportunity to celebrate diversity, promote equality, and connect with others who share the same values. Whether you're a member of the LGBTQ+ community or a proud ally, everyone is welcome to participate in this uplifting walk. This event underscores the department's commitment to diversity, inclusion, and fostering positive relationships with all members of our community.

## Program Goals:

- Build trust and understanding within the community
- Reaffirm the commitment to the community that everyone feels safe, valued, and respected
- Objectives/Strategies
- Participants of all ages, backgrounds, and identities can join in this vibrant display of unity and solidarity



# Scoop with the Chief

## About the Program

In 2024, Chief Aziz developed a program aimed at serving ice cream in under-served areas, focusing on fostering community engagement and strengthening relationships between law enforcement and residents. This initiative not only provides a treat for the community but also acts as a platform for positive interactions, crucial for effective community policing.

## Program Goals:

- **Community Engagement:** The ice cream events serve as informal gatherings where residents can interact with police officers, helping to build trust and open lines of communication.
- **Promoting Safety and Unity:** By creating a friendly environment, the program encourages dialogue about community safety, allowing officers to address concerns and gather feedback from residents.
- **Youth Involvement:** The initiative particularly targets children and families, using the appeal of ice cream to engage young people, which can lead to enhanced youth- police relationships.
- Through this program, Chief Aziz emphasizes the role of community policing in building safer neighborhoods, demonstrating that approachable and engaged law enforcement can significantly enhance community trust and collaboration.

## Objectives/Strategies:

- Schedule regular ice cream events in various neighborhoods to maximize reach.
- Secure permits and necessary approvals from local authorities for public gatherings.
- Collaborate with local businesses, schools, and community organizations



for sponsorship and support.

- Engage local leaders and influencers to promote the events within the community
- Utilize social media, community boards, and local newspapers to advertise events.
- Create eye-catching flyers and posters to distribute in schools, community centers, and neighborhoods.
- Include games, music, and family-friendly activities alongside ice cream serving to attract larger crowds.
- Organize educational sessions or Q&A segments where residents can interact with police officers.
- Set up suggestion boxes at events for residents to anonymously share their thoughts and concerns.



- Conduct informal surveys during the event to gather insights on community needs and perceptions of safety.
- Recruit community volunteers, including youth groups, to assist with event setup and operations.
- Provide training for volunteers on community engagement and safety topics.
- By implementing these objectives and strategies, Chief Aziz's program can effectively strengthen community-police relations while providing a delightful experience for residents.



## Special Olympics/Torch Run/Plunge

### About the Program

The Polar Bear Plunge is part of Maryland's history. For the past 27 years, thousands of plungers have jumped into the cold waters of the Chesapeake Bay to support Special Olympics Maryland. Law enforcement officers, throughout the state of Maryland, will jump into the frigid waters of the Chesapeake Bay at Sandy Point State Park to support the 8,033 athletes of Special Olympics Maryland. This typically occurs in February of each year.

The Prince George's County Police Department first participated in the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Maryland in 1986 and was one of the first Departments in Maryland to participate in this event. For over 37 years, the Department has provided continued support to athletes from Special Olympics Maryland, allowing them the opportunity to demonstrate their abilities, strengthen their character, develop their physical skills, fulfill their potential, and change the way the world views people with developmental disabilities.

The partnership with Special Olympics Maryland has allowed the Prince George's County Police Department to continue making a positive difference in the lives of the athletes and their families.



## Program Goals:

The goal of the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics is to raise awareness and funds for the athletes of Special Olympics Maryland. The Torch Run promotes unity between Law Enforcement and Special Olympics, cementing Law Enforcement as "Guardians of the Flame." The Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics engages law enforcement worldwide by carrying the "Flame of Hope," which symbolizes courage and celebrates diversity.

## Strategies/Objectives:

The Torch Run encourages and validates law enforcement's involvement in the movement, which is a critical piece to the public awareness campaign in advocating for the acceptance and inclusion of those with intellectual disabilities. The Torch Run also exposes more than six million state residents to the message of hope and inspiration delivered by competitive athletes and their law enforcement champions.







Prince George's County  
Police Department

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## COMMUNITY FIRST DIVISION

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